Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, UR, IR

SUBJECT: HOVEYDA VISIT TO USSR

- 1. PRIME MINISTER HOVEYDA OF IRAN COMPLETED HIS OFFICIAL VISIT OF AUGUST 6 THROUGH 12, 1973 TO THE SOVIET UNION WITH COMMUNIQUE WHICH BUILDS ON PREVIOUS TREND OF CAUTIOUS DETENTE IN SOVIET IRANIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS. HOVEYDA WAS INVITED BY KOSYGIN, RECEIVED ALSO BY BREZHNEV AND PODGORNY, AND VISITED LATVIA.
- 2. IN MAJOR SPEECHES EXCHANGED AT AUGUST 6 KREMLIN BANQUET, KOSYGIN GAVE NEW IMPETUS TO SOVIET ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY PROPOSALS, EXPANDING STANDARD LIST OF PRINCIPLES TO INCLUDE SUCH QUESTIONS AS SELF-DETERMINATION, NON-ANNEXATION BY AGGESSIVE MEANS, AND (IN OBIOUS DEFERENCE TO IRANIAN VIEWS) RIGHT OF EVERY NATION TO SOVEREIGN OWNERSHIP OF ITS NATURAL RESOURCES. HOVEYDA IGNORED ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY, BUT PRAISED BREZHNEV'S KIEV SPEECH FOR EMPHASIS ON EQUALITY IN RELATIONS AMONG NATIONS LARGE AND SMALL. HE EMPHASIZED IRAN'S EFFORTS TO ASSURE ITS DEFENSE, A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUBJECT IGNORED BY KOSYGIN, AND PICKED UP KOSYGIN'S

CUE CONCERNING NATURAL RESOURCES.

3. NOTEWORTHY AGREED PINTS OF COMMUNIQUE ARE: SIGNING OF HIJACKING PREVENTION AGREEMENT; SUPPORT FOR SOVIET AMERICAN AGREEMENT ON PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR; CESSATION OF THE ARMS RACE AND NEED TO START PRACTICAL PREPARATIONS FOR CONVOCATION OF A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE; CONVICTION THAT QUESTIONS RELATING TO PERSIAN GULF ZONE SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY THE COUNTRIES OF THE AREA IN KEEPING WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARGER, WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE; AND NEED FOR JOINT EFFORTS AND COOPERATION OF ALL ASIAN COUNTRIES TO PROMOTE REALIZATION OF IDEA OF CREATING COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM IN ASIA IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT SHOULD COVER ALL COUNTRIES OF THE CONTINENT. INVITATION TO KOSYGIN FOR RETURN VISIT TO IRAN WAS ACCEPTED.

4. COMMENT: FACT THAT ALL THREE SOVIET TOP LEADERS RECEIVED HOVEYDA. WHO WOULD NORMALLY RATE ONLY A MEETING WITH KOSYGIN, SIGNIFIES CONTINUED IMPORTANCE SOVIET ATTACH TO IRAN. ALTHOUGH IRANIANS SUBSCRIBED TO SOVIET ASIAN SECURITY SCHEME IN COMMUNIQUE, THEY DID NOT GO BEYOND LANGUAGE OF MARCH 1973 KOSYGIN VISIT COMMUNIQUE AND INDEED QUALIFIED THEIR ENDORSEMENT WITH REQUIREMENT THAT COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM SHOULD INCLUDE ALL COUNTRIES OF ASIA -- MEANING PRC. THIS QUALIFICATION IS CONSISTENT WITH STATED SOVIET POLICY, BUT BREAKS NO NEW GROUND IN TERMS OF OUTSIDE SUPPORT. FORTHCOMING IRANIAN SUPPORT FOR WDC WAS UNDOUBTEDLY AT SOVIET URGING, AS WAS PRAISE FOR CSCE AND U.S.-SOVIET PREVEN-TION OF WAR AGREEMENT. IRANIANS PRESUMABLY SATISFIED WITH SOVIET IMPLICIT HANDS-OFF ATTITUDE ON PERSIAN GULF AND BILATERAL ASPECTS, SUGGESTING SATISFACTION WITH VISIT ON BOTH SIDES. **DUBS**

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